



LGBTQIA+ Rainbow Commission Minutes

Date: *Thursday, July 18, 2019*

Time: *6:30 pm*

Location: *Robbins Library, 4th Floor Conference Room*

Attendance:

Commissioners present: Mel Goldsipe (Chair), Julia Forsythe (Vice Chair), Lisa Krinsky, Helene Newberg, Bill Gardiner, Brooks Harrelson

Liasons: Marci Shapiro-Ide (Council on Aging)

Visitors: C. Boisclair, A. Robinson

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 6:34pm.

1. Assign minute-taker – Commissioner Harrelson to take minutes.
2. Announcements:
 - a. 7/14 was International Nonbinary People's Day.
 - b. Applications for the town Diversity Coordinator position are due 7/26.
Position will support the Rainbow Commission, Human Rights Commission, and Disability Commission in addition to being the Town's ADA coordinator.
3. Welcome and introductions
4. Open forum :
 - a. M. Shapiro-Ide: Real Queer Movie Aug. 8th is "The Guys Next Door."
 - b. M. Shapiro-Ide: The Council on Aging wants to do a mentorship program for intergenerational LGBTQ+ 18+ year olds with senior mentors (similar to SAGE). Would like help reaching 18+ crowd. Possible event in the Spring.
 - c. Belmont Council on Aging has approached Arlington about possibly doing cooperative planning.
 - d. Arlington Reads is looking for book selections, email to C. Harrelson.
 - e. Vandalism reported in an Arlington Facebook group. Chair or Vice-chair will contact Acting Police Chief Flaherty for details.
5. Membership update: There are 3 applications in for the open commissioner positions. Application period will close soon; attendees were encouraged to invite people to apply.
6. Pride Month recap:
 - a. Porchfest: ~35 people over 2 hours, well managed, good presenters. Suggest to do it again.

- b. Picnic: Food was good, accessibility/directions difficult. Should reserve Whittmore-Robbins House park now. Make sure not to conflict with Boston or LexPride. Target dates in preference order: 6/20, 6/6, 6/7, 6/27. M. Shapiro-Ide will check.
- 7. Town Day Sept. 14: Tabled for subcommittee report later in agenda.
- 8. Boston Pride grant: Commissioner Goldsipe reported that funds have been spent; need two more events to satisfy grant. Proposed 1: Karaoke to be combined with COA's annual SAGE Table. 2: Craft Afternoon. Moved: Harrelson, second Newberg, carried unanimously.
- 9. Logo: Commissioner Goldsipe presented a candidate logo based on the one prepared for Pride this year. Cost would be \$150 for alterations and final files in multiple usable formats. Harrelson moved to accept, Krinsky second, carried unanimously.
- 10. Subcommittees:
 - a. Strategic Planning: Commissioner Krinsky will convene the next strategic planning meeting.
 - b. Town Day: Application has been submitted, subcommittee given approval to purchase tent, tables, chairs, table runner, banner, candy, and give-aways as needed.
- 11. Liaisons and partnerships:
 - a. Reel Queer: Aug 8th (see above).
 - b. Parent Forum with schools suggested dates: Oct 22, 23rd, 24th.
 - c. Lex Pride: No date for Trans Day of Remembrance yet; Rainbow has offered to cosponsor.
- 12. Correspondence received:
 - 7/18 – Reply from Town Manager Adam Chapdelaine about whether menstrual products are available free in Town building bathrooms and making sure that's trans/nonbinary inclusive. Not currently but he'll talk to HR & Facilities to see if/how to make this happen.
 - 7/18 – Reply from Jane Morgan, School Committee. Arlington Public Schools have sanitary products available in the nurse's office for students free of charge. Anecdotal evidence is that they encourage students to bring extras home with them if they don't have enough/access at home."
 - 7/18 – Reply from Acting Police Chief Julie Flaherty. Menstrual products are always available to anyone in APD custody.
 - 7/18 - Erica Schleif (ESchleif@town.arlington.ma.us), AYCC clinician, looking for resources for a client struggling with sexuality. Have asked for more details to help tailor resources. Commissioner Newberg will follow up.
 - 7/17 – Reply from Julia Gilstein of NE Aces, who would like to collaborate with us on an event for Ace Week in October, perhaps for the Parent Forum. They are all volunteers but would welcome a donation to support their work.
 - 7/15 – Carline Newell asking us to rank our preferences Parent Forum dates.

- 7/9 – Christine Bongiorno, Health & Human Services – Notification that a community member had spread misinformation about hate graffiti being left up as a learning tool. The person was relieved to learn that it is only left up long enough for the police to investigate it before removal.
 - 7/10 – Human Rights Campaign – The Municipal Equality Index webinar about Equal Access to Sex-Segregated Facilities is Wednesday, July 31, 2 - 2:45 pm EST.
 - 6/25 - Jackie Maurer of Upbeat Cycling asked us to share a Pride Ride event on Facebook.
 - 6/23 – Jeff Morris included us on an email to the AHRC, MTPC, and several other trans-supportive groups with a rambling religious-based diatribe.
 - 6/17 - Caryn Malloy, Director of HR, has hired a recent AHS grad to do an inventory this summer of the bathrooms in about 40 town and school buildings to listing their existing locations, the composition of each restroom, and what their current signage is. Then we'll have complete information so we can move ahead with updating them to inclusive signs.
 - 6/17 - Christie Gilliland of Artisans Asylum Fiber Arts, asking where to get the pronoun pins that were included in our Pride display at the Robbins Library.
13. Minutes approval for June meeting and May strategic planning session: moved Harrelson, second Newberg, passed.
 14. Strategic planning:
 - a. Agreed: Draft minutes to be sent by minutes taker to entire Commission by end of month of meeting. Absolute latest is 1 week prior to next meeting.
 - b. Restructure meetings:
 - i. Actions Items up front
 - ii. Sub-committee meetings & reports to be sent via email beforehand
 - iii. Consent agenda to be passed in one motion at beginning of meeting (minus any items a Commissioner requests to be held for separate discussion).
 - iv. Later: first part of meetings informational with invited guests.
 15. Community events (copied from RC website):
 - Jul. 25: Bingo for a Cause, 6:30-8:30pm, The Residence at Five Corners, 678 Depot Street, North Easton.
 - Jul. 25: Anjimile (performance), 7-8:30pm, Cary Library, 1874 Mass Ave, Lexington.
 - Jul. 31: QBG Paints Rainbow Rocks, 7 pm, Robbins Library, 4th floor Conference Room, 700 Mass Ave., Arlington. Sponsored by the Robbins Library. **Cosponsored by the Rainbow Commission.**
 - Aug. 8: Reel Queer Watches *The Guys Next Door* (with Director Discussion), 6:30 pm, Robbins Library's Community Room (downstairs), 700 Mass Ave. Sponsored by the Robbins Library. **Cosponsored by the Council on Aging and the Rainbow Commission.**

- Aug. 8: Parent/Caregiver Group (every second Thursday of month), 7-9pm, First Parish in Lexington.
- Aug. 24: LexPride Day Trip to Provincetown, 8am-6pm, Long Wharf, Boston (near the Aquarium).

Meeting adjourned at 7:51 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for *August 15, 2019 at 6:30 pm (Robbins Library, 4th Floor Conference Room)*.

Respectfully submitted, Brooks Harrelson, Commissioner